



**U.S. Department of Justice**

*United States Attorney  
District of New Jersey*

*970 Broad Street, 7th floor  
Newark, New Jersey 07102*

**973-645-2700**

VV/Plea Agreement  
2024R00981

October 30, 2024

**VIA EMAIL**

Saverio Viggiano, Esq.  
Assistant Public Federal Defender  
Office of the Federal Public Defender  
22 South Clinton Avenue  
Trenton, New Jersey 08609

Re: Plea Agreement with Joshua Cobb

Dear Mr. Viggiano:

(25-CR-017)

**RECEIVED**

JAN 13 2025

AT 8:30  
CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT - D.N.J. M

This letter sets forth the plea agreement between your client, Joshua Cobb ("COBB"), and the United States Attorney for the District of New Jersey ("this Office"). This offer will expire on November 6, 2024, if it is not accepted in writing by that date. If COBB does not accept this plea agreement, his sentencing exposure could increase beyond what is discussed in this plea agreement as a result of this Office's investigation.

**Charge**

Conditioned on the understandings specified below, this Office will accept a guilty plea from COBB to a one-count Information, which charges COBB with transmitting a threat in interstate and foreign commerce, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 875(c). If COBB enters a guilty plea and is sentenced on this charge and otherwise fully complies with this agreement, this Office will not initiate any further criminal charges against COBB for knowingly transmitting in interstate and foreign commerce a communication containing a threat to injure the persons of another on or about December 17, 2022.

But if a guilty plea in this matter is not entered for any reason or a guilty plea or judgment of conviction entered in accordance with this agreement does not remain in full force and effect, this Office may reinstate any dismissed charges and initiate any other charges against COBB even if the applicable statute of limitations period for those charges expires after COBB signs this

agreement, and COBB agrees not to assert that any such charges are time-barred.

Sentencing

The violation of 18 U.S.C. § 875(c) to which COBB agrees to plead guilty carries a statutory maximum prison sentence of five years and a statutory maximum fine equal to the greatest of (1) \$250,000, or (2) twice the gross amount of any pecuniary gain that any persons derived from the offense, or (3) twice the gross amount of any pecuniary loss sustained by any victims of the offense. Fines imposed by the sentencing judge may be subject to the payment of interest.

The sentence to be imposed upon COBB is within the sole discretion of the sentencing judge, subject to the provisions of the Sentencing Reform Act, 18 U.S.C. §§ 3551-3742, and the sentencing judge's consideration of the United States Sentencing Guidelines. Those Guidelines are advisory, not mandatory. The sentencing judge may impose any reasonable sentence up to and including the statutory maximum term of imprisonment and the maximum statutory fine. This Office cannot and does not make any representation or promise as to what Guidelines range may be found by the sentencing judge, or as to what sentence COBB ultimately will receive.

Further, in addition to imposing any other penalty on COBB, the sentencing judge as part of the sentence:

- (1) will order COBB to pay an assessment of \$100 pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3013, which assessment must be paid by the date of sentencing;
- (2) may order COBB to pay restitution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3663 *et seq.*;
- (3) pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3583 may require COBB to serve a term of supervised release of not more than 3 years, which will begin at the expiration of any term of imprisonment imposed. Should COBB be placed on a term of supervised release and subsequently violate any of the conditions of supervised release before the expiration of its term, COBB may be sentenced to not more than 2 years' imprisonment in addition to any prison term previously imposed, regardless of the statutory maximum term of imprisonment set forth above and without credit for time previously served on post-release supervision, and may be sentenced to an additional term of supervised release.

Rights of This Office Regarding Sentencing

Except as otherwise provided in this agreement, this Office may take any position with respect to the appropriate sentence to be imposed on COBB by the sentencing judge. This Office may also correct any misstatements relating to the sentencing proceedings and provide the sentencing judge and the United States Probation Office all law and information relevant to sentencing, favorable or otherwise. And this Office may inform the sentencing judge and the United States Probation Office of: (1) this agreement; and (2) the full nature and extent of COBB's activities and relevant conduct with respect to this case.

Stipulations

This Office and COBB will stipulate at sentencing to the statements set forth in the attached Schedule A, which is part of this plea agreement. Both parties understand that the sentencing judge and the United States Probation Office are not bound by those stipulations and may make independent factual findings and may reject any or all of the parties' stipulations. Nor do these stipulations restrict the parties' rights to respond to questions from the Court and to correct misinformation that has been provided to the Court.

This agreement to stipulate on the part of this Office is based on the information and evidence that this Office possesses as of the date of this agreement. Thus, if this Office obtains or receives additional evidence or information prior to sentencing that it believes materially conflicts with a Schedule A stipulation, that stipulation shall no longer bind this Office. A determination that a Schedule A stipulation is not binding shall not release the parties from any other portion of this agreement, including any other Schedule A stipulation.

If the sentencing court rejects a Schedule A stipulation, both parties reserve the right to argue on appeal or at post-sentencing proceedings that the sentencing court did so properly. Finally, to the extent that the parties do not stipulate to a particular fact or legal conclusion in this agreement, each reserves the right to argue how that fact or conclusion should affect the sentence.

Waiver of Appeal and Post-Sentencing Rights

As set forth in Schedule A and the paragraph below, this Office and COBB waive certain rights to appeal, collaterally attack, or otherwise challenge the judgment of conviction or sentence.

Immigration Consequences

COBB understands that, if COBB is not a citizen of the United States, COBB's guilty plea to the charged offense will likely result in COBB being subject to immigration proceedings and removed from the United States by making COBB deportable, excludable, or inadmissible, or ending COBB's naturalization. COBB understands that the immigration consequences of this plea will be imposed in a separate proceeding before the immigration authorities. COBB wants and agrees to plead guilty to the charged offense regardless of any immigration consequences of this plea, even if this plea will cause COBB's removal from the United States. COBB understands that COBB is bound by this guilty plea regardless of any immigration consequences. Accordingly, COBB waives any right to challenge the guilty plea, sentence, or both based on any immigration consequences. COBB also agrees not to seek to withdraw this guilty plea, or to file a direct appeal, or any kind of collateral attack challenging the guilty plea, conviction, or sentence, based on any immigration consequences of the guilty plea or sentence.

Other Provisions

This agreement is limited to the United States Attorney's Office for the District of New Jersey and cannot bind other federal, state, or local authorities. If requested to do so, however, this Office will bring this agreement to the attention of other prosecuting offices.

This agreement was reached without regard to any civil or administrative matters that may be pending or commenced in the future against COBB. So this agreement does not prohibit the United States, any agency thereof (including the Internal Revenue Service and Immigration and Customs Enforcement) or any third party from initiating or prosecuting any civil or administrative proceeding against him.

No provision of this agreement shall preclude COBB from pursuing in an appropriate forum, when permitted by law, a claim that he received constitutionally ineffective assistance of counsel.

No Other Promises

This agreement constitutes the entire plea agreement between COBB and this Office and supersedes any previous agreements between them. No additional promises, agreements, or conditions have been made or will be made unless set forth in writing and signed by the parties.

Very truly yours,

PHILIP R. SELLINGER  
United States Attorney

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Assistant United States Attorney  
United States Attorney's Office  
District of New Jersey

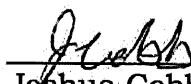
APPROVED:



\_\_\_\_\_  
Joyce M. Malliet  
Chief, National Security Unit

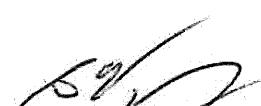
I have received this letter from my attorney, Saverio Viggiano, Esq. I have read it. My attorney and I have reviewed and discussed it and all of its provisions, including those addressing the charge, sentencing, stipulations (including the attached Schedule A), waiver, restitution, and immigration consequences. I understand this letter fully and am satisfied with my counsel's explanations. I accept its terms and conditions and acknowledge that it constitutes the plea agreement between the parties. I understand that no additional promises, agreements, or conditions have been made or will be made unless set forth in writing and signed by the parties. I want to plead guilty pursuant to this plea agreement.

AGREED AND ACCEPTED:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Joshua Cobb

Date: November  
15, 2024

I have reviewed and discussed with my client this plea agreement and all of its provisions, including those addressing the charge, sentencing, stipulations (including the attached Schedule A), waiver, restitution, and immigration consequences. My client understands this plea agreement fully and wants to plead guilty pursuant to it.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Saverio Viggiano, Esq.  
Counsel for Defendant

Date: 11/15/24

Plea Agreement With Joshua Cobb

Schedule A

1. This Office and Joshua COBB ("COBB") recognize that the United States Sentencing Guidelines do not bind the sentencing judge. Each party nevertheless agrees to these stipulations.

2. The version of the Guidelines effective November 1, 2023 applies in this case.

3. The applicable guideline is U.S.S.G. § 2A6.1. This guideline carries a Base Offense Level of 12. U.S.S.G. § 2A6.1(a)(1).

4. A 3-level upward adjustment applies because COBB intentionally selected the victims as the objects of his offense because of the actual or perceived race, color, or ethnicity of persons. U.S.S.G. § 3A1.1(a).

5. COBB reserves the right to argue that the offense involved a single instance evidencing little or no deliberation, which would result in a decrease of 4 levels pursuant to U.S.S.G. § 2A6.1(b)(6)(A)-(B). The United States reserves the right to argue that the offense did not involve a single instance evidencing little or no deliberation, and that therefore, U.S.S.G. § 2A6.1(b)(6)(A)-(B) does not apply.

6. As of the date of this letter, COBB has clearly demonstrated a recognition and affirmative acceptance of personal responsibility for the offense charged. Therefore, a downward adjustment of 2 levels for acceptance of responsibility is appropriate if COBB's acceptance of responsibility continues through the date of sentencing. See U.S.S.G. § 3E1.1(a).

7. Accordingly, the parties agree that, depending upon the sentencing court's resolution of the open Guidelines issue noted above, the total offense applicable is either 9 or 13 (the "Total Offense Level").

8. Each party agrees not to advocate for any term of imprisonment outside the Guidelines range resulting from (a) the Total Offense Level that applies after the sentencing judge resolves the open Guidelines issue noted above in Paragraph 5 and (b) the criminal history category that the sentencing judge applies under Chapter 4 of the Guidelines without any departure or variance.

9. If the term of imprisonment does not exceed 10 months, and except as specified in the next paragraph below, COBB will not challenge or seek to reduce by any means any component of the sentence imposed by the sentencing judge for any reason other than ineffective assistance of counsel. The term "any means" includes a direct appeal under 18 U.S.C. § 3742 or 28

U.S.C. § 1291, a motion to vacate the sentence under 28 U.S.C. § 2255, a motion to reduce the term of imprisonment under 18 U.S.C. § 3582(c)(1)(B) or (c)(2), a motion for early termination of supervised release under 18 U.S.C. § 3583(e)(1), and any other appeal, motion, petition, or writ, however captioned, that seeks to attack or modify any component of the sentence. If the term of imprisonment is at least 12 months, this Office will not challenge by appeal, motion, or writ any component of the sentence imposed by the sentencing judge. The provisions of this paragraph bind the parties even if the sentencing judge employs a Guidelines analysis different from the one above.

10. Both parties reserve the right to file or to oppose any appeal, collateral attack, writ or motion not barred by the preceding paragraph or any other provision of this plea agreement. Moreover, the preceding paragraph does not apply to:

- (a) Any proceeding to revoke the term of supervised release.
- (b) A motion to reduce the term of imprisonment under 18 U.S.C. § 3582(c)(1)(A).
- (c) An appeal from the denial of a § 3582(c)(1)(A) motion on the grounds that the court erred in finding no extraordinary and compelling circumstances warranting a reduced term of imprisonment or that the court failed to consider those circumstances as a discretionary matter under the applicable factors of 18 U.S.C. § 3553(a).